(b) whether it is a fact that some good programmes have been sanctioned which may lead to employment opportunities of the rural people; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government on (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Rationale behind separation of Ministry of MSME

†2057. SHRI PYARELALKHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALLAND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the purpose behind having a separate Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said Ministry has failed in providing self employment to unemployed persons; and

(c) if not, the details of the different schemes introduced by his Ministry and the achievements made thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALLAND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) To implement the new Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act that was enacted in 2006 to focus on the promotion and development of and for enhancing the competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, the erstwhile Ministry of Small Scale Industries and the Ministry of Agro & Rural Industries were amalgamated into the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. Simultaneously, the Government amended the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 with regard to this Ministry.

(b) No, Sir. The employment generated by manufacturing MSMEs, including khadi and village industries and the coir sector was about 408 lakh persons by the end of Tenth Plan. As against a target of creation of 44 lakh employment opportunities by small-scale industries (now known as micro and small enterprises), approximately 60.23 lakh employment opportunities were created by the end of Tenth Plan.

(c) The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing supportive measures to enhance competitiveness of MSMEs through technological upgradation, accessing markets, improved infrastructure, better availability of credit, facilities for training and capacity building of entrepreneurs. These schemes, *interalia,* include Entrepreneurship and Management Development Programmes (EDPs & MDPs), Market Development.

Assistance Scheme for SSI exporters (SSI-MDA) to provide international exposure MSEs, etc., to enhance managerial capabilities of MSEs. With the view to further enhancing their competitive edge, the Government has also announced (i) the Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises, (ii) the implementation of National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme which , *inter alia,* include operationalising the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006, from 2nd October 2006. These initiatives including schemes like Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Scheme of Fund

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) and Rural Employment Generation Programmes (REGP) provide back up for setting up of MSMEs by the common people (details available on website: http://www.dcmsme. gov.in). All these schemes are provided on uniform basis all over the country.

The back up support provided by the Government enabled micro and small manufacturing enterprises to grow from 109.49 lakh units in 2002-03 to 128.44 lakh units and 2006-07, thereby enhancing the employment opportunities from 263.68 persons to 312.52 persons, production from Rs. 314850 crore to Rs. 585112 crore and exports from Rs. 86013 crore to Rs. 150242 crore during the same period. The Central initiatives/schemes are not State specific and the implemented uniformaly all over the country.

Village industry units set up under REGP

2058. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALLAND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2,950 village industry units proposed to set up under Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) in Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07;

(b) if so, whether the target has been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the margin money given to the units set up in Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALLAND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), targets, to provide financial assistance for setting up of projects costing upto Rs. 25 lakh, are only indicative. Hence, the achievement in terms of projects depends on the quantum of investment, which may vary from the targets. In Andhra Pradesh, the achievement in respect of utilization of margin money was about 94% of the target While the achivement in respect of employment was about 95% in 2006-07. The details of the targets fixed and achievements made thereof in Andhra Pradesh during 2006-07 are given below:

Details	Number of projects	Margin Money (Rs. in lakh)	Employment (Number of persons)
Target	3390	3913.69	62978
Achievement	2113	3674.06	59750
Achievement	62.33%	93.88%	94.87%

(d) The district-wise details of margin money given to the units set up under REGP in Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07. are given in Statement.